

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (amended): A method for treating a mammalian subject suffering from an autoimmune or an alloimmune disease, the method comprising:

administering to said subject a therapeutic treatment which results in at least partial remission of one or more symptoms of the autoimmune or alloimmune disease; and

concurrently administering to said subject autologous mammalian blood which has been modified extracorporeally by exposure to at least one stressor selected from the group consisting of an oxidative environment, an electromagnetic emission and a temperature above or below body temperature, said modified mammalian blood being administered to said subject in an amount sufficient to maintain the remission of said one or more symptoms of the autoimmune or alloimmune disease after said therapeutic treatment is terminated.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said autoimmune or alloimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), scleroderma, diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, graft versus host disease and tissue transplant rejection.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein said autoimmune or alloimmune disease is rheumatoid arthritis and said symptoms include joint tenderness and swelling.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein said therapeutic treatment comprises administration to said subject of one or more biologic tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein said biologic TNF inhibitors are selected from one or more members of the group consisting of recombinant TNF receptors and anti-TNF monoclonal antibodies.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5, wherein said recombinant TNF receptor is selected from the group consisting of recombinant human TNF receptor p55 Fc fusion protein (p55 TNFR:Fc) and recombinant human TNF receptor p75 Fc fusion protein (p75 TNFR:Fc).

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein said recombinant TNF receptor is p75 TNFR:Fc.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said mammalian blood is modified extracorporeally by exposure to an electromagnetic emission, an elevated temperature and an oxidative environment.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein said electromagnetic emission comprises ultraviolet light.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein said therapeutic treatment and said modified mammalian blood are administered simultaneously.

Claim 11 (amended): ~~The method of claim 1, wherein said therapeutic treatment and said modified mammalian blood administered consecutively~~ A method for treating a mammalian subject suffering from an autoimmune or an alloimmune disease, the method comprising:
administering to said subject a therapeutic treatment which results in at least partial remission of one or more symptoms of the autoimmune or alloimmune disease;
terminating said therapeutic treatment; and
subsequently administering to said subject autologous mammalian blood which has been modified extracorporeally by exposure to at least one stressor selected from the group consisting of an oxidative environment, an electromagnetic emission and a temperature above or below body temperature, said modified mammalian blood being administered to said subject in an amount sufficient to maintain the remission of said one or more symptoms of the autoimmune or alloimmune disease.

Claim 12 (new): The method of claim 11, wherein said autoimmune or alloimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), scleroderma, diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, graft versus host disease and tissue transplant rejection.

Claim 13 (new): The method of claim 12, wherein said autoimmune or alloimmune disease is rheumatoid arthritis and said symptoms include joint tenderness and swelling.

Claim 14 (new): The method of claim 12, wherein said therapeutic treatment comprises administration to said subject of one or more biologic tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors.

Claim 15 (new): The method of claim 14, wherein said biologic TNF inhibitors are selected from one or more members of the group consisting of recombinant TNF receptors and anti-TNF monoclonal antibodies.

Claim 16 (new): The method of claim 15, wherein said recombinant TNF receptor is selected from the group consisting of recombinant human TNF receptor p55 Fc fusion protein (p55 TNFR:Fc) and recombinant human TNF receptor p75 Fc fusion protein (p75 TNFR:Fc).

Claim 17 (new): The method of claim 16, wherein said recombinant TNF receptor is p75 TNFR:Fc.

Claim 18 (new): The method of claim 11, wherein said mammalian blood is modified extracorporeally by exposure to an electromagnetic emission, an elevated temperature and an oxidative environment.

Claim 19 (new): The method of claim 18, wherein said electromagnetic emission comprises ultraviolet light.